

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Schneider et al.  
App. No : 10/549,651  
Filed : January 8, 2007  
For : BRACING ARRANGEMENT WITH  
OVERLOAD PROTECTION  
Examiner : Gary Wayne Estremsky  
Art Unit : 3673  
Conf No. : 6186

**AMENDMENT**

**Mail Stop Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated June 27, 2008, Applicant respectfully submits the following amendments and comments in connection with the above-captioned application. Changes to the pending claims have been identified with underlining to indicate insertions and by strikethrough or brackets to indicate deletions.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.